

EPA's Environmental Education Division (EED), Office of Children's Health Protection and Environmental Education, developed the following goals and objectives in a collaborative manner with many of the program's partners and stakeholders, both internal and external to EPA. These strategic goals serve as the foundation for EED's planning, budgeting, and performance and accountability processes.

Vision Statement: People use their environmental knowledge to engage in environmental stewardship.

Mission Statement: Ensure that environmental education, based on sound science and effective education practices, is used as a tool to promote and protect human health and the environment and to encourage student academic achievement.

Long-Term Goals	Objectives
Goal 1 Promote the use of environmental education in schools and communities to improve academic achievement and stewardship.	1.1 Through 2011, award grants to schools and communities. ^a
	1.2 Through 2011, support in-service professional development for educators. ^b
	1.3 Through 2011, support efforts to integrate environmental education into higher education by targeting teacher preparation programs and faculty. ^b
	1.4 Through 2011, support state environmental education certification programs. ^b
	1.5 Through 2011, support the use of the national environmental education guidelines for materials, student outcomes, educator preparation, and nonformal programs. ^b
	1.6 Through 2011, promote activities to integrate environmental education into conservation programs of leading government agencies and NGOs. ^b
Goal 2 Increase the capacity of states to develop and deliver comprehensive statewide environmental education programs. ^c	2.1 Through 2011, award grants to support state capacity building. ^b
	2.2 Through 2011, support state capacity building. ^b

Long-Term Goals	Objectives
Goal 3 Promote research and evaluation that assesses the effectiveness of environmental education in improving environmental quality and student achievement.	3.1 By 2008, collaborate with leading natural and social science research organizations to update, prioritize, and publish the National Environmental Education Research Agenda. ^e By 2009, in coordination with key stakeholders, begin supporting priority topics identified in the National Environmental Education Research Agenda. ^e
	3.2 By 2011, increase the quality and quantity of environmental education program evaluations that assess impact on environmental quality and student learning. ^e
	3.3 By 2009, develop and support an EPA Research Agenda for Environmental Education. ^e
Goal 4 Improve the quality, access, and coordination of environmental education information, resources, and programs.	4.1 By 2009, identify and support key activities, materials, and priorities for environmental education in EPA's program offices. ^e
	4.2 Through 2011, maintain and improve EPA's education Web portals for educators, students, and EPA staff.
	4.3 By 2009 conduct an environmental education inventory of five federal agencies, and develop and implement a strategy for addressing key priorities. ^e
	4.4 Through 2011, establish and implement a National Review Program for the evaluation of environmental education materials and resources based on the National Environmental Education Guidelines. ^b
	4.5 Through 2011, continue supporting Internet access to national environmental education information, materials, and resources. ^b
Goal 5 Promote and encourage environmental careers.	5.1 Through 2011, continue to conduct the NNEMS fellowship program for university and graduate students to provide research experience related to the environmental field. ^f

Notes:

a EED will accomplish this objective with funds from Section 6 of the National Environmental Education Act (NEEA).

b EED will accomplish this objective with funds from Section 5 of NEEA.

c Capacity building refers to the increase in a state's capacity to develop and deliver environmental education programs across a state or multiple states.

d Infrastructure refers to three categories of highly specific, measurable criteria necessary for state-wide environmental education programs. The categories are structure, program, and funding. [Ruskey and Wilke (1994). *Promoting Environmental Education: A Handbook for Strengthening Environmental Education in Your State and Community*. University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Foundation Press.]

e EED will accomplish this objective with funds from Section 4 of NEEA.

f EED will accomplish this objective with funds from Section 7 of NEEA.